

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 18736 231738Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

/107 W

----- 008491

R 231645Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4887

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 18736

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, PFOR, XF, XG

SUBJ: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE: A TOUCH OF POLITICS

REF: ROME 18499

SUMMARY: FIRST EEC CONTACTS IN CAIRO CONCERNING AGENDA AND  
TIMING OF EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AT THE GENERAL COMMISSION LEVEL  
INDICATE ARAB SIDE WILL ATTEMPT TO INSERT ITS POLITICAL NOSE  
FURTHER UNDER THE TENT. END SUMMARY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 18736 231738Z

1. MFA SOURCES HAVE GIVEN US A RUNDOWN ON ITITIAL EEC/ARAB

LEAGUE CONTACTS IN CAIRO LAST WEEK IN CONNECTION WITH SETTING AN AGREED AGENDA AND DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL BE AT THE GENERAL COMMISSION LEVEL IN LUXEMBOURG, LIKELY IN MAY.

2. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, RIAD CONTINUED HIS REASONABLE POSTURE VIS-A-VIS THE EUROPEAN DELEGATION, WHICH STUCK TO ITS MANDATE (REFTTEL). RIAD AGREED THAT A WELL-FORMULATED AGENDA IS NECESSARY TO PRECLUDE SURPRISES AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS AT THE GENERAL COMMISSION MEETING. HE SAID, NEVERTHELESS THAT THE ARAB MEMBERS WILL "CERTAINLY" RAISE POLITICAL ISSUES AT THE MEETING. THE PROBLEM FOR BOTH SIDES, ACCORDING TO RIAD, IS TO FIND AND DEVELOP A SCENARIO SO THAT "PRESENTATION OF POINTS OF VIEW" WILL BE MADE WITH MINIMUM DISRUPTION OF THE DIALOGUE.

3. RIAD SUGGESTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE NINE HAD AGREED ON A COMMON STANCE RE THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, INCLUDING PALESTINE, IN NOVEMBER, 1973. THEREFORE HE HOPED THAT THE NINE MIGHT PRESENT "THE EVOLUTION OF THEIR THINKING" ON THIS SUBJECT SO AS TO "VERIFY THE CONVERGENCE OF POSITIONS (BETWEEN BOTH SIDES) WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY CONTINUING COOPERATION IN TECHNICAL FIELDS."

4. THE EC TEAM RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD REFER RIAD'S VIEWS TO THE NINE PARTNERS BUT EMPHASIZED THE VIEW OF THE NINE THAT IN THE DIALOGUE CONTEXT THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS RELATING TO A ME PEACE SETTLEMENT, A SETTLEMENT "WHICH IS THE OBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS TO WHICH THE NINE ARE NOT ASSOCIATED." THE DELEGATION URGED CAUTION ON RIAD SINCE HE WAS MOVING INTO DELICATE TERRAIN AND MIGHT INADVERTENTLY COMPROMISE THE MEETING AT GENERAL COMMISSION LEVEL WHICH THE ARAB SIDE SO MUCH DESIRES.

5. THE EUROPEANS REITERATED THAT THE ONLY FORMULA WHICH WOULD PERMIT A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMISSION WOULD BE TWO SIDES, DE-NATIONALIZED. RIAD SAID HE THOUGHT THE ARABS WOULD AGREE BUT A FORMAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE'S COUNCIL MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO APPROVE IT. RIAD DID NOT RPT NOT AGREE TO COMBINING THE GENERAL COMMISSION SESSION WITH AN IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING EXPERTS MEETING. APPARENTLY HE FELT THERE WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT GRIST FOR THE EXPERT'S MILL, AND LIKELY WANTED THE GENERAL COMMISSION SESSION UNADULTERATED BY THE PRESENCE OF "TECHNICIANS". IT REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 18736 231738Z

POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT AT LEAST "KEY" EXPERTS WILL ATTEND THE GENERAL COMMISSION MEETING.

6. MAY LOOKS TO BE A MORE LIKELY DATE THAN MARCH 1976 FOR THE MEETINGS SINCE THE ARABS HAVE CALLED FOR AN ARAB/AFRICAN MEETING FROM 20 TO 25 MARCH. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PLANNING MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ROME18736  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750446-0172  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751215/aaaaamsc.tel  
**Line Count:** 113  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ROME 18499  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE: A TOUCH OF POLITICS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XF, XG, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006